

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are currently pending, wherein claims 1, 12-14, 16, 18, 19, and 25 have been amended to even more clearly define the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of the remarks presented herein below.

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action ("Action"), the Examiner appears to state that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 3, 2004 fails to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2) because Applicant did not provide a legible copy of International Publication Nos. WO 01/75773, WO 01/16691, and WO 01/75781. Applicant notes that these references were cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding PCT Application No. PCT/SE03/01026 from which the current application was filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371. Accordingly, the above references should have been provided by the International Bureau. However, Applicant submits herewith copies of these references for consideration by the Examiner.

In paragraph 3 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,957,768 to Silverbrook et al. ("Silverbrook"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In order to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the cited reference must teach each and every claimed element. In the present case, claims 1-28 are not anticipated by Silverbrook because Silverbrook fails to disclose each and every claimed element as discussed below.

Independent claim 1 defines a product in combination with a user unit to record information from a surface thereof. The product comprises, *inter alia*, a base; a first position code provided to define coordinates for a plurality of first points, said first position allowing a user unit to determine positions from the entire surface of the base; a user-identifiable field provided on the base, the field being associated with a predetermined function to be performed in consequence of a user unit being placed in the field; at least one partial area including said field; and a second position code provided to define coordinates for a plurality of second points, said second position code allowing a user unit to determine positions from within the at least one partial area.

Silverbrook discloses a method of enabling a user to instruct a computer system to perform an operation via an interface surface and a sensing device. The interface surface includes visible graphical information and substantially invisible coded data. This invisible coded data includes a plurality of tags, as illustrated in Fig. 5. Silverbrook further discloses that there are two distinct surface coding schemes which can be implemented using the tags of Fig. 5, a location-indicating tag and a object-indicating tag. (See column 11, lines 22-55 of Silverbrook.) The location-indicating tag contains a tag ID which, when translated through the tag map associated with the tagged region, yields a unique tag location within the region. (See column 11, lines 27-38 of Silverbrook.) The object-indicating tag contains a tag ID which directly identifies a user interface element in the page description associated with the region. (See column 11,

lines 39-49 of Silverbrook.) However, nowhere in Silverbrook is there any disclosure of a first and second position code as claimed.

Although Silverbrook discloses two possible tag schemes, only one of the tagging schemes allows a user unit to determine positions within the surface. Therefore, Silverbrook cannot be interpreted as disclosing a product comprising a first position code provided to define coordinates for a plurality of first points, the first position code allowing a user unit to determine positions from the entire surface of the base; and a second position code provided to define coordinates for a plurality of second points, said second position code allowing a user unit to determine positions from within predetermined fields as claimed. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Silverbrook because Silverbrook fails to disclose each and every claimed element.

Independent claim 13 defines a method for coding that includes, *inter alia*, providing a first position code which is adapted to be arranged over a surface of a base and which codes coordinates for a plurality of first points, said first position code allowing a position code reading unit to determine positions on an entire surface of the base; and providing a second position code which codes coordinates for a plurality of second points and which is adapted to be arranged over at least one partial area on the surface of the base, said second position code enabling detection of a field associated with a predetermined function which is to be performed when a user unit is placed in the field. Accordingly, independent claim 13 is not anticipated by Silverbrook because

Silverbrook fails to disclose or suggest a first and second position code as claimed.
(See discussion above with respect to claim 1.)

Independent claim 18 defines a coding device that includes, *inter alia*, a signal processor configured to provide a first position code which is adapted to be arranged over an entire surface of a base and which codes coordinates for a plurality of first points, the first position code allowing a user unit to determine positions on the entire surface of the base; and to provide a second position code which codes coordinates for a plurality of second points and which is adapted to be arranged over at least one partial area of the base, the second position code allowing a user unit to detect a field which is associated with a predetermined function to be carried out when a unit is placed in the field. Accordingly, independent claim 18 is not anticipated by Silverbrook because Silverbrook fails to disclose or suggest a first and second position code as claimed.
(See discussion above with respect to claim 1.)

Independent claim 19 defines a method for recording information from a surface of a base, said base being provided with a first position code which codes coordinates for a plurality of first points, and which, in at least one partial area, is further provided with a second position code which codes coordinates for a plurality of second points. The method includes, *inter alia*, obtaining an image of the surface of the base using a user unit; determining whether the second position code is present in the recorded image; if the second position code is detected in the image, determining the coordinates for at least one of said plurality of second points by means of the second position code;

and determining, on the basis of the determined coordinates, whether the user unit is placed in a field on the surface, which field is associated with a function to be carried out by the user unit. Accordingly, independent claim 19 is not anticipated by Silverbrook because Silverbrook fails to disclose or suggest a first and second position code as claimed. (See discussion above with respect to claim 1.)

Independent claims 25 defines a device for recording information from a surface of a base, the base being provided with a first position code coding coordinates for a plurality of first points and, in at least one partial area, is further provided with a second position code coding coordinates for a plurality of second points. The device includes, *inter alia*, a signal processor adapted to: determine whether or not the second position code is present in an image of the surface recorded by means of a user unit; determine the coordinates for at least one of said plurality of second points by means of the second position code if the second position code is determined to be present; and determine, on the basis of the determined coordinates, whether the user unit is placed in a field on the surface of the base, where the field is associated with a function to be performed by the user unit. Accordingly, independent claim 25 is not anticipated by Silverbrook because Silverbrook fails to disclose or suggest a first and second position code as claimed. (See discussion above with respect to claim 1.)

Claims 2-12, 14-17, 20-24, and 26-28 variously depend from independent claims 1, 13, 19, and 25. Therefore, claims 2-12, 14-17, 20-24, and 26-28 are patentable over Silverbrook for at least those reasons presented above with respect to claims 1, 13, 19,

and 25. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Penny Caudle (Reg. No. 46,607) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Three (3) WO Publications